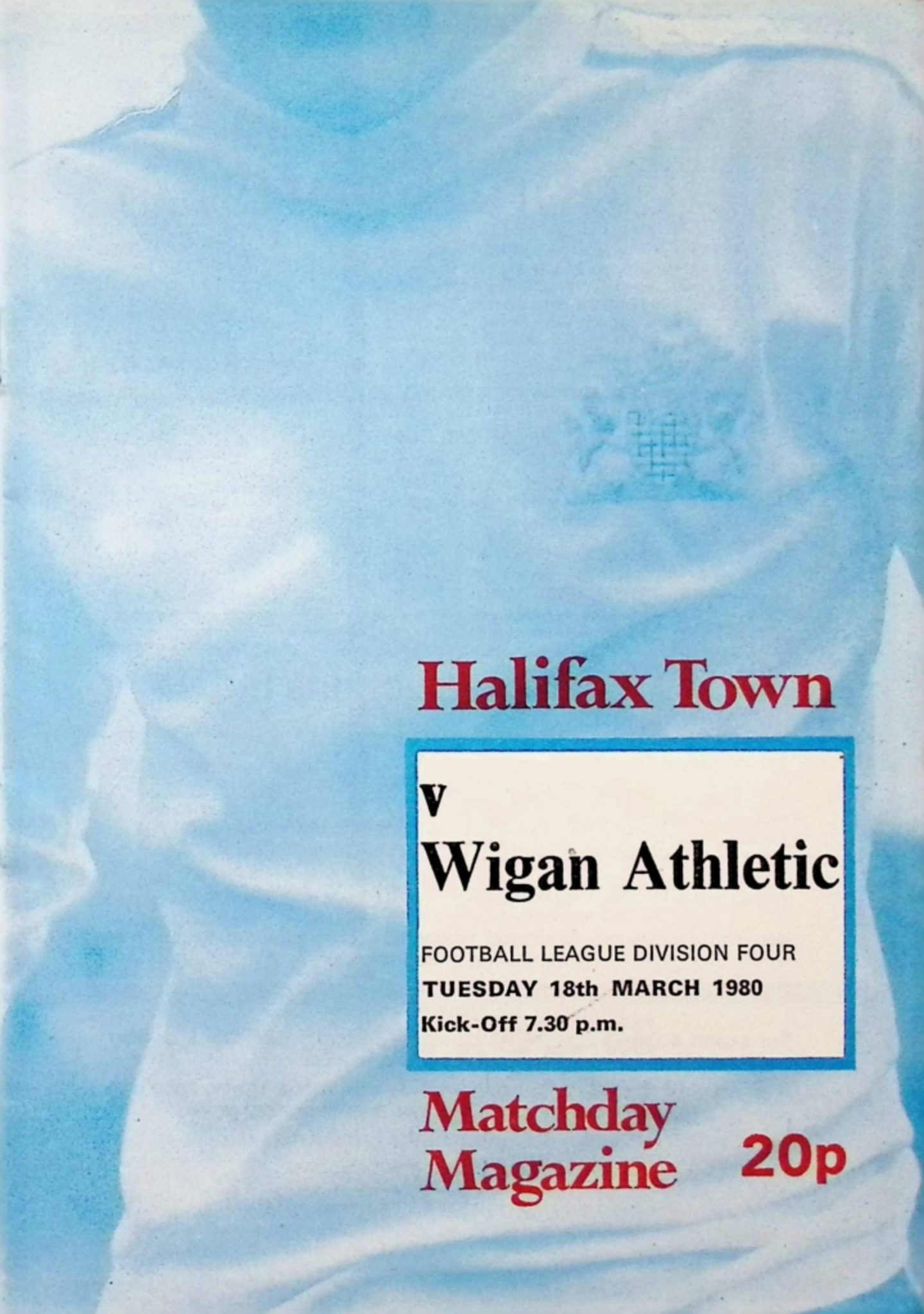




Halifax Town

v

Wigan Athletic

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

TUESDAY 18th MARCH 1980

Kick-Off 7.30 p.m.

**Matchday
Magazine**

20p

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MANAGERS COMMENTS



Friday night football has lost some of its attraction in my eyes after our recent experience at Newport. The outcome of the match was a severe disappointment in itself but the crowd, less than 5,000 was a sure sign that the traditional Saturday afternoon soccer match is sacrosanct. Gates throughout the Football League were on the low side and I am sure, well below the normal Saturday's average.

Finishing the game at 8.55 p.m. meant that it was theoretically possible to arrive back home in Halifax at a reasonable hour, but it turned out to be nearer 3.00 a.m. than 2.00 a.m. So if late night revellers saw a couple of the Halifax Town players out late last Friday, don't be too alarmed, there was no match the next day.

Preparations for tonight's game against Wigan Athletic meant that all the staff were at work on Sunday morning, the traditional day off for the pro. footballer.

Mid week football linked with the traditional weekend fixture seems to be popular and I am hoping that our gate for the attractive Wigan Athletic will show a significant increase on the last home game.

Last year we lost 2-1 and I want our players to remember that and reflect the all round improvement in the club's image this year, and reverse that score line.

Enjoy the game and give the players plenty of vocal support.

TODAYS REFEREE

MARK SCOTT (Nottingham)

Mr. Scott began refereeing in 1965 and joined the Football League in 1975 via the East Midland and North Midland Leagues. In 1978 he lined a U.E.F.A. Cup match and was referee for an F.A. Vase Semi-final in 1979. Interested in all sports, he enjoys

swimming and keeps fit for refereeing by running and weight training. Played cricket and football at County level whilst at school he is now a security officer with a security firm and is married with three daughters.

FOURTH DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Walsall	37	10	8	0	33	14	10	7	2	28	18	55
Huddersfield	36	12	3	2	47	13	8	6	5	32	27	49
Portsmouth	37	14	3	2	56	20	5	7	6	20	21	48
Bradford	36	11	5	2	35	11	8	4	6	30	34	47
Newport	35	12	5	2	39	21	7	1	8	25	20	44
Peterborough	37	11	2	5	32	18	6	7	6	15	16	43
Lincoln	36	11	6	1	35	10	3	5	10	16	28	39
Torquay	33	11	4	2	38	17	2	7	7	17	29	37
Wigan	33	9	3	5	31	23	6	4	6	24	29	37
Aldershot	35	9	5	4	30	17	5	3	9	19	23	36
Northampton	36	12	3	2	27	12	1	7	11	15	42	36
Hartlepool	35	9	5	4	32	23	4	3	10	19	25	34
Bournemouth	36	6	7	5	23	19	3	8	7	18	23	33
Tranmere	36	8	2	8	28	22	4	7	7	17	25	33
Halifax	34	10	5	1	20	9	2	4	12	15	35	33
Doncaster	35	8	4	6	31	25	3	6	8	19	26	32
Stockport	36	7	7	4	23	23	4	3	11	13	35	32
York	37	7	5	7	30	30	3	4	11	24	40	29
Darlington	37	6	9	3	28	20	1	6	12	14	40	29
Hereford	36	7	5	6	18	14	2	5	11	14	29	28
Port Vale	36	6	5	7	26	18	3	5	10	18	38	28
Scunthorpe	34	8	8	2	30	19	1	2	13	10	42	28
Crewe	36	7	5	6	19	22	0	4	14	7	37	23
Rochdale	35	4	6	6	16	22	1	5	13	13	45	21

SOCCERSCENE

With the F.A. Cup Final almost with us once again much comment in the National Press is given to the fact that thousands of genuine fans are unable to purchase tickets unless willing to pay extortionate prices to individuals popularly (or should it be unpopularly) known as "Touts". Every fan in the country has his own ideas and opinions as to where these people purchase their seemingly endless supplies of tickets so there is little point in discussing that aspect here. What does rankle however is the fact that the same opinions are voiced by the same people year after year at this stage of the season. Surely the time has come for a serious look at this problem and how it can be overcome. Instead of "crusading" or "complaining" for one month of the year and then forgetting all about the subject until the next final comes around, why not stick with it. Surely if the "genuine" fan makes enough noise on this subject something concrete would be done to ensure a better deal for all concerned. It is of course impossible to cater for 200,000 people when only half that amount are

available but surely something can be done to stop tickets reaching the hands of individuals whose only interest is profit - and a big one at that. — It's worth thinking about!

Ups and Downs

Football they say, has many ups and downs and I feel sure that none will appreciate that more this week than Wolves striker ANDY GRAY and Nottingham Forest's central defender LARRY LLOYD Both had accumulated 20 points under the totting up system and for their "sins" received a one match suspension. For Lloyd, the former Liverpool star, this meant that he missed appearing in Saturday's League Cup Final while Gray thanked lady luck and West Ham Utd. for his "let off". The Wolves striker also received a one match suspension but served it during mid-week by missing his teams game with Aston Villa. It was however, a last minute penalty which denied Villa a replay and, had this been so, Gray would have also missed the final - certainly a case of ups and downs.

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Halifax Town football club would like to take this opportunity of thanking all our matchball donors for their interest and generosity during the season.
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 Once again - Many Thanks.

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SPOTLIGHT ON

Wigan Athletic

Goalkeeper JOHN BROWN was previously with Preston and Stockport County before joining Wigan. With over 170 league appearances behind him he gives stability and experience to a defence which is noted for its solidarity. Another player whose experience proved to last year's Football League newcomers is DAVID FRETWELL. A cool, efficient professional he made 253 appearances for Bradford City before joining the Springfield Park club on a free transfer in the early part of last season. TOMMY GORE, voted 'player of the year' for the past two seasons by the Wigan supporters and runner up in the 1979 "Fourth Division Player of the Year Competition" is a talented mid-fielder who likes to attack.

Released by Tranmere in 1974 he packs a powerful shot and has matured into one of the best mid-field players to wear the Wigan shirt in post war years.

The club's costliest ever signing is COLIN METHVEN who was signed from Scottish League club East Fife for a £30,000 fee in October 1979. Good in the air and a strong tackler Colin captains the side and leads by example. Alongside his skipper NEIL DAVIDS added strength and determination to the defence and is another player noted for his tackling ability. He has seen service with a number of Football League clubs and arrived at Springfield Park from Swansea City last year. FRANK CORRIGAN made 45 first team appearances last term, Division Four outings which added to the wealth of non-league experience gained principally with Northwich Victoria and the Wigan club. At his best when pushing forward in support of the attack, the mid-fielder is a

constant source of danger with his strong running, passing skills and shooting ability.

JEFF WRIGHT has been one of the club's most consistent performers and this consistency was continued last term when he was ever present. Rated among the best ball distributors in Division Four he has the knack of scoring vital goals and is a player of great promise for the future. PETER HOUGHTON was desperately unlucky with injuries last season but, though this factor sidelined him for half the league programme he still led the goalscoring list with an impressive 13 goals from 23 appearances. This goalscoring coupled with an all round ability has already attracted the interest of higher graded Football League clubs. Former Everton and Liverpool youth player TONY QUINN joined Wigan at the start of their first season in the League and made an immediate impact in the club's Lancashire League side when he led that League's goalscorers with 35 goals. He made his Fourth Division debut in October 1979 and hit five goals in five games and has now secured a regular first team place. A recent addition to Wigan's mid-field strength is GEORGE URQUHART who was signed for a "nominal fee" from Ross County. Formerly with St. Mirren he is a player with a reputation as a ball winner and was rated highly among the best of Scottish non-league players. Rounding up the squad is DEREK BROWNBILL, signed from Port Vale this former Liverpool striker is a popular figure among the Wigan ranks and has recently completed over 100 appearances for the club - his 20 appearances last term bringing him 6 goals.

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"In Off the Post"

Dear Sir, — May I say that I think your "Soccerswap" page in the programme is an excellent idea as programme collecting nowadays is very popular amongst people of all ages. I only wish that every club carried a similar feature.

Yours etc. Mr. R. A. Fisher.
Long Buckby, Northants.

... Thanks for your comments Mr. Fisher, we have had quite a number of letters congratulating us on this feature and, now that we have managed to turn the losses of previous years into a healthy profit as regards the programme, we have plans for a bright new style magazine for next season which will include other new features.

Selling the Skircoat!

As you probably read in last Wednesday's Courier the new name scarves printed "Skircoat Shed Loyal Supporters" have now arrived and already, over half have been sold. This scarf is a "limited edition" in recognition of the support given by "The Shed" - if you are thinking of purchasing please do so quickly.

Selling Shaymaker!

Once again our Shaymaker Lottery has paid out its £1,000 first prize making 31 lotteries and 31 £1,000 prizes. The lucky winner this week is Mrs. M. WALKER of 1 HEBDEN TERRACE, MIDGEHOLE, HEBDEN BRIDGE while the following each receive £100. Miss D. MERCER, 65 HIGH STREET, LUDDENDEN: Mr. DEREK FERMOYLE, 26 ETON ST., GIBBET ST., HX: Mr. KEITH BREAR, 8 RAVEN

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As mentioned in the Northampton match programme we will shortly take delivery of a caravan which will be used as the "Shay Shop" at the ground on match days. This will be situated at the Hunger Hill side of the ground to give better access to our own supporters while during the summer months we hope to use it as a travelling shop and mobile Shaymaker selling aid. This will then be used to visit the many estates and surrounding areas of Halifax and should also prove useful at fetes and galas in and around the area. Watch out for the Blue 'N' White Shaymaker Shop coming "down your way".

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ROBERT FISHER, 18 THE POPLARS, LONG BUCKBY, NORTHAMPTON NN6 7YQ requires Halifax Town v. Northampton 24.9.62 (must be in good condition) and is willing to pay a good price or swap ten programmes in exchange.

KEITH RANCE, 6 CUBITT TERRACE, CLAPHAM, LONDON SW4 6AR requires the following Wimbledon away programmes for the 1977-78 season - Brentford, Crewe, Darlington, Hartlepool, Rochdale, Stockport and Swansea. He also collects Wimbledon non-league, Rangers, Scotland and England programmes. A good programme exchange or cash is offered but please write first (or phone 01-622-5729).

STEVE CHARLESWORTH, 2 DUKE STREET, ELLAND (Tel. 79149 after 6 p.m.) requires the following Halifax Town home programmes, 1961-62, Portsmouth, Bristol City, Reading, Port Vale, Lincoln, 1963-64 Carlisle, Bradford City, Newport, 1964-65 Millwall and will buy or swap.

GEOFF HOLDEN, 43 CRESCENT ROAD, BRIGHTON, SUSSEX requires Brighton home and away programmes - particularly Halifax Town - Brighton 1962-63 and 1970-71 Geoff is willing to buy or swap and has hundreds of spare programmes available.

L. ABRAHAM, 225 MACKADOWN LANE, TILE CROSS, BIRMINGHAM B33 0NL requires the following programmes and will swap or buy, buying prices in brackets. Lincoln v. Halifax 66-67 (40p), 63-64 (45p). Halifax v. Lincoln 61-62 (50p) 63-64 (45p), 64-65 (45p) and York City v. Lincoln 69-70 (35p), 70-71 (35p).

MICHAEL LORD, 9 PYE NEST GROVE, HALIFAX, requires numerous Burnley homes and aways plus Portsmouth v. Halifax Town 1978-79 - will buy or swap.

S. BINEY, 2 FOREST AVENUE, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS., requires Hx.

Town v. Norwich City, League Cup 4th round 1963-64 - **WILL PAY YOUR PRICE FOR THIS PROGRAMME.**

DAVID HIRST, c/o BOX No. 4 PROMOTIONS OFFICE is willing to pay good prices for Portsmouth v. Halifax Town 1978-79, Swansea v. Town 1977-78 and Swansea, Exeter and Scunthorpe v. Town 1976-77. Also Town programmes pre 1976-77 home and away required.

PETER SCOTT, 12 MALKILN DRIVE, WEST BRETTON, Nr. WAKEFIELD is willing to pay 65p each for Town v. Barnsley and Barnsley v. Town 1971-72 and 40p for Town v. Barnsley 1977-78. Can you help?

JOHN DINSDALE, 12 KLIFFEN PLACE HX. (Tel. 66167 after 6 p.m.) requires pre 1967 Halifax Town & Burnley homes and aways plus the following Halifax Town homes - 74-75 Blackburn, 75-76 Hartlepool (L.C.) Preston, Stafford Rangers (F.A.C.) 76-77, Rochdale, Cambridge, Stockport and 77-78 Watford.

T. A. DOYLE, 27 WOOD LANE, COURT WOOD LANE, LEEDS LS6 2PF has programmes for sale including many Halifax Town - please send large S.A.E. for lists.

CHARLES WOODHEAD, 19 PYE NEST GROVE, ROCHDALE ROAD, HX. requires any Burnley programmes from the season 1970 to 1979 and particularly wants the 1974 F.A. Cup Semi Final Burnley v. Newcastle. Charles is willing to buy or swap and has many Leeds Utd. programmes 1963 to 1970 (including European Cup quarter-final), Bradford P.A. and Bradford City 1959 to 1970 to swap.

M. A. SARGENT, 28 KELVIN ROAD, BEECHDALE ESTATE, WALSALL, W. MIDLANDS, WALSALL requires Town v. Walsall programmes for the seasons 70-71, 71-72 and 74-75 along with any Walsall pre-1970 and the Halifax v. Walsall League Cup.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 25th March Reserves v. Lincoln 7.30 p.m.

Saturday 29th March Town v. Aldershot 3 p.m.

Monday 7th April Town v. York City 3 p.m.

Tuesday 8th April Town v. Scunthorpe 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 10th April Reserves v. Sunderland

Tuesday 15th April Reserves v. Middlesbrough

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